

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claim 29 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the recited subject matter.

Please AMEND claims 21-23, 26-28, 30 and 31, as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, all claims currently pending in this application have been reproduced below:

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~which reads a code formed on a substrate~~ used for manufacturing a device, said apparatus comprising:

a container to contain a substrate;

a transfer system which has a holding member for holding ~~[[a]]~~ the substrate and a ~~transfer driving mechanism for transferring driving~~ transfer driving mechanism for transfer the substrate from said container; and

a reading system which optically reads a code formed on the substrate in a transfer process performed by said transfer system, at least a portion of said reading system being located on at least one of said holding member and said ~~transfer driving~~ transfer driving mechanism; and

a process system which performs a process using the substrate based on information of the code read by said reading system.

22. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the portion of said reading system is located on said holding member and ~~includes~~ comprises one of a light reflecting portion and a light scattering portion.

23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the portion of said reading system ~~includes~~ comprises one of a code detecting portion for detecting the code formed on the substrate and a code illumination portion for illuminating the code formed on the substrate.

24. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 23, wherein one of the code detecting portion and the code illumination portion is located on said holding member.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein all of said reading system is located on said ~~transfer system~~ driving mechanism.

27. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the code ~~includes~~ comprises a bar code.

28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim 21, wherein the substrate ~~includes~~ comprises a transparent portion in which the code is formed.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) An exposure apparatus comprising:

a container to contain a substrate;

a transfer system which has a holding member for holding ~~[[a]]~~ the substrate and a ~~transfer driving~~ mechanism for ~~transferring driving~~ said holding member to transfer the substrate from said container;

a reading system which optically reads a code formed on the substrate in a transfer process performed by said transfer system, at least a portion of said reading system being located on at least one of said holding member and said ~~transfer driving~~ mechanism; and

an exposure system which performs an exposure process using the substrate based on information of the code read by said reading system.

31. (Currently Amended) A method used for manufacturing a device, said method comprising steps of:

transferring a substrate using a transfer system which has a holding member for holding the substrate and a ~~transfer driving~~ mechanism for ~~transferring driving~~ the holding member to transfer the substrate from a container which contains the substrate;

optically reading a code formed on the substrate using a reading system in a transfer process performed by said transfer system, at least a portion of the reading system being located on at least one of the holding member and the ~~transfer driving~~ mechanism; and

performing a process using the substrate based on information of the code read in said reading step.

32. (Cancelled)